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High-level political forum on sustainable development
Convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council
11-20 July 2016

Report of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2016 session

Summary

The third meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council was the first since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It included discussions on how to ensure that no one is left behind, means of implementation, science-policy interface, mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals and creating ownership at the national level, as well as regional experiences, delivering the 2030 Agenda for countries in special situations and the role of multi-stakeholder engagement for implementation. It also showcased 22 voluntary national reviews on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The high-level political forum held broad-ranging interactive discussions. The forum's role as the central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda was repeatedly stressed. All countries must take advantage of the forum and find new ways to report on progress. The forum's reviews must be robust, voluntary, effective, participatory, transparent and integrated with other follow-up and review activities. Increasing the reporting burden of countries should be avoided, making full use of existing reporting mechanisms, including those under international conventions and treaties. Regional organizations and initiatives will be a key part of follow-up and review of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, establishing a link between national and global processes and ensuring coherence with regional agendas and visions.

Sustained political attention is critical and, in this regard, the forum reflected on the mandated annual progress report on the Sustainable Development Goals prepared by the Secretary-General in cooperation with the United Nations system. The report provides an overview of the significant progress that has been made in many areas, building on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, and also presents many challenges faced as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda begins.

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The imperative to leave no one behind is the core message of the 2030 Agenda. Inclusion and inequality remain challenges for both developed and developing countries. There is a need to address multiple forms of discrimination, including against women, indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees, persons with disabilities and many other groups. In particular, the meeting discussed the importance of empowering women and girls for creating peaceful and inclusive societies. Inclusion of women requires active roles by all actors. In order to leave no one behind, globalization must work for everyone. Partnership, as well as better data and information, are essential elements for achieving inclusion. Institutions and policies at the national, regional and global levels are needed to support all the dimensions of inclusion and participation of all.

Efforts are required to enhance the voice of all stakeholders in decision-making, by engaging in active outreach and providing adequate resources for the participation of stakeholders in relevant forums. Civil society has a critical role in pushing and delivering the 2030 Agenda. The high-level political forum has continued to build inclusiveness and transparency, engaging major groups and other stakeholders in its discussions and considering reports on their contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

At the meeting, the core challenge of lifting people up out of poverty was discussed in depth. Investments in education and capacity, health and nutrition, livelihoods and resilience to shocks, and increased financial inclusion are critical elements of economic and social empowerment. Several countries have been very successful in fighting poverty. Factors of success of these experiences have included a focus on inclusive growth; investments in health and nutrition and provision of education; phasing in social protection networks and increasing health coverage; fostering income-generating activities; facilitating access to assets, markets and value chains; and enhancing financial inclusion for all marginalized groups.

Prosperity goes beyond economic growth, as determinants of well-being include social and psychological factors such as the pursuit of meaning and participation in society, and our ability to flourish as human beings. Decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation while ensuring social equity lies at the basis of sustainable development. Investing in infrastructure will be critical to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The focus on interlinkages and the nexus approach for food security and sustainable agriculture, climate action, sustainable oceans and terrestrial ecosystems are important, as the Sustainable Development Goals cannot be successfully implemented in silos. Several innovative solutions used by local and regional governments were mentioned in this regard. There is also a need to integrate planning in terms of forests and terrestrial ecosystems into national and local planning. Food security in developing countries should continue to be a key priority for policy coherence. It was suggested that food security considerations should systematically be included in national and international decision-making, especially in relation to climate, agriculture, food security and trade.

Going forward, it will be important to address the root causes of vulnerability and marginalization for countries in special situations, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as countries in conflict or post-conflict circumstances. The high vulnerability of small island developing States to natural disasters, for example, as well as financing

and resource mobilization remain challenges. Diversifying economies and improving agricultural productivity will be crucial for many of these countries, as will investment in infrastructure, manufacturing, tourism and natural resource-based industries. Beyond enhancing domestic resource mobilization, the success of these countries will largely depend on a strengthened global partnership, including capacity-building, technology transfer, technical and financial support, trade facilitation and international cooperation. Commitments in terms of official development assistance for these countries need to be met.

Achieving the ambitious 2030 Agenda requires a revitalized and enhanced global partnership that brings in all stakeholders and mobilizes all available resources. International development cooperation has to respond to the transformative nature of the Agenda, while drawing on lessons learned from the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. Meeting the commitments included in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, such as on official development assistance, will be critical. Means of implementation at the global level must consider synergies among the Sustainable Development Goals. Science, technology and innovation have to be mobilized in support of the 2030 Agenda, with a focus on capacity-building to create innovative knowledge societies. The Technology Facilitation Mechanism, with its annual multi-stakeholder forum and online platform, holds important potential to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Many countries reported that they have built or are building indicators based on national priorities, sometimes based on "nationalized" global indicators. The capacity of national statistical offices needs to be strengthened. Data are currently lacking for monitoring many Sustainable Development Goals, in particular in countries in special situations. In order to review progress on the 2030 Agenda, enhancing efforts to collect and make disaggregated data more accessible will be critical.

Science is needed more than ever to provide a complete picture and inform the implementation of the new 2030 Agenda. In turn, science needs to be responsive to the questions that the new Agenda puts forward. There is a need for dialogue and the high-level political forum should remain a central platform for such dialogue and continue to seek the inputs of scientific communities worldwide. The *Global Sustainable Development Report 2016* was presented at the forum. The report addresses the theme of the forum, including through the lenses of technology and institutions. Calls were made for the report to have dedicated content on groups of countries in special situations. It will be important to mobilize the broadest possible range of scientific inputs from multiple disciplines.

Awareness of the 2030 Agenda at the global level needs to be translated into action at the national level. Creating ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals and their interlinkages will require building on national and local contexts, values and cultures, avoiding the use of blueprints. Many countries reported that they have "nationalized" targets for the 2030 Agenda in their national strategies and plans, including financing strategies and institutional mechanisms. Local and subnational level governments will be critical for implementation and for developing road maps and guiding principles for coordination and monitoring at multiple levels. They have a front role to play in securing the safety, well-being and livelihoods of communities, including by providing basic services.

National voluntary reviews were presented by 22 countries. Demonstrating impressive ownership of the 2030 Agenda, these countries have devoted considerable time and resources to analysing the implications of the Agenda and the relationship between the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and their national priorities; in putting in place broad consultation and coordination processes ranging from interministerial coordination to the wider inclusion of civil society and public consultations; in integrating the Goals into their national strategies, plans and budget processes; and in setting up monitoring and evaluation systems. While the reviews that were presented showed many similarities in terms of visions, goals and priorities, they also reflected differences in priority areas stemming from varying national contexts. Several of the countries acknowledged the support provided by the United Nations system for the preparation of their reviews. The reviews highlighted a broad range of priority issues. The imperative to leave no one behind, as well as means of implementation and partnerships, were mentioned as critical dimensions.

I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/290, decided that the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council should be convened annually by the President of the Council for a period of eight days, including a three-day ministerial segment. Pursuant to paragraph 11 (c) of the annex to Assembly resolution 68/1, the three-day ministerial meeting should be held during the high-level segment of the Council.

2. The Council, in its resolution 2016/1, decided that the forum should be held from 11 to 15 July 2016. The Council also decided that the high-level segment of its 2016 session would be held from 18 to 22 July, and that the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum should be held from 18 to 20 July.

3. The Council, in its decision 2016/212, decided that the theme of the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under its auspices, would be "Ensuring that no one is left behind".

4. The present report reflects the proceedings of the meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2016 session.

II. Proceedings of the forum

5. During the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2016 session, the forum held 21 panel discussions (1st to 16th meetings), from 11 to 20 July 2016, as well as 22 voluntary national reviews (13th to 16th meetings), from 19 to 20 July 2016. A general debate, open to all States Members of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies, was held on 18 to 20 July, within the framework of the ministerial meeting of the forum during the high-level segment of the 2016 session of the Council.[1]

6. On 11 July 2016, the President of the Economic and Social Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), opened the 1st meeting of the high-level political forum in 2016 and made a statement.

7. At the same meeting, following his opening statement, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Wu Hongbo, made a presentation on the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (E/2016/75).

8. At the 4th meeting, on 12 July, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Wu Hongbo, made a presentation on the *Global Sustainable Development Report 2016* (a summary of which is contained in document E/HLPF/2016/4).

9. At the 6th meeting, on 13 July, the Mayor of Istanbul and President of United Cities and Local Governments, Kadir Topbaş, delivered a keynote address.

[1] An account of the proceedings of the general debate is contained in the report of the Economic and Social Council for 2016 (A/71/3).

10. At the same meeting, the Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations and Co-Chair of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, Macharia Kamau, presented the Co-Chairs' summary of the multi-stakeholder forum, also on behalf of his Co-Chair, Vaughan Turekian, Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State of the United States of America.

11. At the 11th meeting, on 18 July, the journalist, politician, human rights activist and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Tawakkol Abdel-Salam Karman, delivered a keynote address.

12. At the 12th meeting, on 18 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Héctor Alejandro Palma Cerna (Honduras), reported on the outcome of the inaugural session of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, on behalf of the President of the Council.

13. A total of 107 side events and 12 sustainable development learning courses, as well as other related activities, including ministerial-level breakfast meetings and meetings with representatives from the fields of social and natural sciences, major groups and other stakeholders, were held on the margins of the formal meetings of the high-level political forum and were sponsored by a diverse group of stakeholders, including Governments; agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system; international organizations; and major groups.[2] Information on the events is available from the website of the forum (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2016).

Wrap-up session and conclusion of the high-level political forum

14. At the 10th meeting, on 15 July, the President of the Council (Republic of Korea) made a statement and highlighted the key messages emanating from the meetings of the high-level political forum held from 11 to 15 July that would be provided to the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum, which was held from 18 to 20 July.

15. At the 16th meeting, on 20 July, at the conclusion of the high-level political forum, a statement was made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

16. At the same meeting, the President of the Economic and Social Council made a statement. The representative of Algeria made a statement on a point of order. The President of the Council declared closed the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2016 session.

[2] The major groups, as defined in Agenda 21: Programme of Action for Sustainable Development, are: women; children and youth; indigenous peoples; non-governmental organizations; local authorities; workers and trade unions; business and industry; the scientific and technological community; and farmers.

Action taken

17. At its 16th meeting, on 20 July, the forum had before it the draft ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2016 session of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council (E/2016/L.24-E/HLPF/2016/L.2).

18. At the same meeting, the Secretary read out a statement of programme budget implications of the draft ministerial declaration and orally corrected paragraph 5 of the annex to the draft ministerial declaration.

19. Also at the same meeting, following a statement by the President of the Council, the representative of Algeria made a statement on a point of order. Statements were made by the representatives of Nicaragua, Egypt and Ecuador.

20. Also at the 16th meeting, following a statement by the President of the Council, the representative of Nicaragua requested a recorded vote on paragraph 19 of the draft ministerial declaration.

21. At the same meeting, the forum decided to retain paragraph 19, by a recorded vote of 141 to 1, with 3 abstentions. The result of the vote was as follows:[3]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Nicaragua

Abstaining:

Egypt, Myanmar, Russian Federation

[3] The delegation of the Sudan subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

22. Before the vote, a statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of Slovakia (on behalf of the European Union). After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Cuba, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Russian Federation, Algeria and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

23. At the 16th meeting, on 20 July, the high-level political forum adopted its draft ministerial declaration as orally corrected and as a whole, as contained in document E/2016/L.24-E/HLPF/2016/L.2.

24. At the same meeting, following the adoption of the draft ministerial declaration, a statement was made by the representative of the United States.

25. Also at the same meeting, the forum adopted its draft report (E/HLPF/2016/L.1), and agreed to entrust the President of the Council with finalizing the report to reflect the proceedings of the forum.

III. Panel discussions

Where do we stand at year one?

26. At the 1st meeting, on 11 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Where do we stand at year one?", chaired by the President of the Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), who made an opening statement.

27. The discussion was moderated by Paula Caballero Gomez, Senior Director of the Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice at the World Bank. Statements were made by the following panellists: Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka, and Chair of Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals; and Christiana Figueres, former Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and by the lead discussants: José María Viera, Human Rights and Development Policy Advisor at the World Blind Union; and Martin Tsounkeu, General Representative of the Africa Development Interchange Network.

28. An interactive dialogue ensued during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Kenya, Colombia, Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States) and Brazil, as well as the representatives of the major groups for women, and children and youth.

Envisioning an inclusive world in 2030

29. Also at the 1st meeting, on 11 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Envisioning an inclusive world in 2030", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Alejandro Palma Cerna (Honduras), who made an opening statement.

30. The discussion was moderated by Lisa Foster, Director of the Office for Access to Justice of the United States Department of Justice. Statements were made by the following panellists: Ion Jinga, Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations and Chair of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission for Social Development; and Onalenna Selolwane, Executive Committee Member of the

Mosadi Khumo Socio Economic Empowerment Forum for Women and member of the Committee for Development Policy, and by the lead discussants: Ibrahim Ismail Abdallah, President of the Arab Organization for Persons with Disabilities; and Alvaro Esteban Pop Ac, Chair of the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

31. An interactive dialogue ensued during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Sri Lanka and the European Union, as well as representatives of the major groups for women, children and youth, and non-governmental organizations.

Lifting people out of poverty and addressing basic needs

32. At the 2nd meeting, on 11 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Lifting people out of poverty and addressing basic needs", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Sven Jürgenson (Estonia), who made an opening statement.

33. The discussion was moderated by Sarina Prabasi, Chief Executive Officer of WaterAid America, who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Alice Albright, Chief Executive Officer of the Global Partnership for Education; and Michael Park, Director of Strategy and Operations of the Aspen Management Partnership for Health at the Aspen Institute, as well as by the following lead discussants: Cristina Diez, Director of International Relations Training at the International Movement ATD Fourth World; and Rajul Pandya-Lorch, Chief of Staff and Head of the 2020 Vision Initiative at the International Food Policy Research Institute.

34. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Benin, China, Rwanda and Malaysia; the representatives of the League of Arab States and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the representatives of the major groups for women, indigenous peoples, children and youth, and non-governmental organizations; and the representative of the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Fostering economic growth, prosperity and sustainability

35. Also at the 2nd meeting, on 11 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Fostering economic growth, prosperity and sustainability", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Sven Jürgenson (Estonia), who made an opening statement.

36. The discussion was moderated by Vinicius Pinheiro, Director of the New York Office of the International Labour Organization (ILO), who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Tim Jackson, Director of the Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity and Professor of Sustainable Development at the University of Surrey; and Bart Verspagen, Director-Dean of the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance at Maastricht University and Director of the United Nations University-Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology, and by the following lead discussants: Dyborn

Chibonga, Chief Executive Officer at the National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi; and Wellington Chibebe, Deputy General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation.

37. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Denmark, Serbia, Chad, China, Saudi Arabia, Uganda and Switzerland; and the representatives of the major groups for non-governmental organizations, business and industry, children and youth, women, and indigenous peoples.

Food security and sustainable agriculture, climate action, sustainable oceans and terrestrial ecosystems: adopting a nexus approach

38. At the 3rd meeting, on 12 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Food security and sustainable agriculture, climate action, sustainable oceans and terrestrial ecosystems: adopting a nexus approach", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Sven Jürgenson (Estonia), who made an opening statement.

39. The discussion was moderated by Ronald Jumeau (Seychelles), Ambassador for Climate Change and Small Island Developing State Issues, who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Deborah Fulton, Secretary of the Committee on World Food Security; Evelyn Nguleka, President of the World Farmers' Organization; Omoyemen Lucia Odigie-Emmanuel, President of the Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research; and Jake Rice, Chief Scientist Emeritus, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

40. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Italy, Maldives, New Zealand, Finland, Saudi Arabia, Palau (on behalf of the Pacific Small Island Developing States) and Kenya; the representatives of the major groups for local authorities, children and youth, workers and trade unions, and indigenous peoples; and the representatives of the other stakeholders groups for ageing and persons with disabilities.

Creating peaceful and more inclusive societies and empowering women and girls

41. Also at the 3rd meeting, on 12 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Creating peaceful and more inclusive societies and empowering women and girls", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Jürg Lauber (Switzerland), who made an opening statement.

42. The discussion was moderated by Irene Khan, Director-General of the International Development Law Organization, who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Lakshmi Puri, Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; Beatrice Ayuru, Founder of Lira Integrated School; and Robert J. Berg, Chair of the Alliance for Peacebuilding and Trustee at the World Academy of Arts and Science, and by the following lead discussants: Anca-Ruxandra Gliga, Advocate at the United Network of Young

Peacebuilders and in the children and youth major group; and Gaia Gozzo, Head of Governance at CARE International.

43. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of China, Sweden, Benin, Denmark, Iraq and South Africa; and the representative of the League of Arab States; as well as the representative of the major group for women.

Science-policy interface: new ideas, insights and solutions

44. At the 4th meeting, on 12 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Science-policy interface: new ideas, insights and solutions", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Alejandro Palma Cerna (Honduras), who made an opening statement.

45. The discussion was moderated by Lucilla Spini, Head of Science Programmes at the International Council for Science, who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: E. William Colglazier, Senior Scholar at the Center for Science Diplomacy, American Association for the Advancement of Science; Guéladio Cissé, Head of the Ecosystem Health Sciences Unit at the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute; Patrick Paul Walsh, Professor and Chair of International Development Studies of the School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin; Aurélien Décamps, Assistant Professor at Kedge Business School and Academic Coordinator for the sustainability literacy test of the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative; Donovan Guttieres, focal point for the youth science-policy interface platform of the children and youth major group and policy focal point for the Youth Gateway platform of the Global Youth Partnership for the Sustainable Development Goals; and Peter Messerli, Director and Professor for Sustainable Development, Centre for Development and Environment, Institute of Geography, University of Bern.

46. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of China, Finland, Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), South Africa, Switzerland, Australia, Algeria, the United States, Saudi Arabia and the European Union; the representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency; the representatives of the major groups for indigenous peoples, women, business and industry, non-governmental organizations and children and youth; and the representatives of the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities and Together 2030.

Creating ownership at the national level

47. At the 5th meeting, on 13 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Creating ownership at the national level", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava (Zimbabwe), who made an opening statement.

48. The discussion was moderated by Jessica Espey, Associate Director of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, who made a statement.

Statements were also made by the following panellists: Yonglong Lu, Professor at the State Key Laboratory of Urban and Regional Ecology, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences; and Louis Meuleman, Senior Fellow at the Centre for Governance and Sustainability, University of Massachusetts, Boston, and Wageningen University, the Netherlands, and by the following lead discussants: Annika Lindblom, Counsellor to the Ministry of the Environment, Finland; Ivane Shamugia, Head of the Donor Coordination Unit, Administration of the Government of Georgia; Adolfo Ayuso, Deputy Director General for International Affairs in the Office of the President of Mexico; and Gomer Padong, Development Cooperation and Advocacy Director of the Philippine Social Enterprise Network.

49. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Italy, Benin, Malaysia, Kenya, Botswana, Senegal, Algeria, Palau and Indonesia; the representative of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU); and the representatives of the major groups for women and indigenous peoples.

Mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals into national policies, plans and strategies and integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development

50. Also at the 5th meeting, on 13 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals into national policies, plans and strategies and integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Sven Jürgenson (Estonia), who made an opening statement.

51. The discussion was moderated by Nick Ishmael Perkins, Director of SciDev.net, who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Koichi Aiboshi, Assistant Vice-Minister for Global Issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan; Joseph Enyimu, Economist at the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development of Uganda; and Wardarina, Programme Officer, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, and Co-Chair of the Asia Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism; as well as by the following lead discussants: Izzet Ari, Head of the Environment and Sustainable Development Department at the Ministry of Development of Turkey; Olivier Brochenin, Director of the Development Policy Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development of France; Eili Lepik, Adviser on Sustainable Development at the Strategy Unit, Government Office of Estonia; and Stine Lise Hattestad Bratsberg, Chief Executive Officer of Pure Consulting.

52. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of China, Sri Lanka, the European Union and Nigeria.

Vertical cooperation: local authorities and national governments working together for implementation of the 2030 Agenda

53. At the 6th meeting, on 13 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Vertical cooperation: local authorities and national governments working together for implementation of the 2030 Agenda", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava (Zimbabwe), who made an opening statement.

54. The discussion was moderated by Peter Wollaert, Associated Fellow of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and Managing Director of the International Training Centre for Local Actors/Authorities, Flanders, who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Hyuk-Sang Sohn, Professor at Kyung Hee University and President of the Korean Association of International Development and Cooperation; and Patrícia Iglecias, State Secretary for Environment for the State of Sao Paulo, and by the following lead discussants: Rosemarie G. Edillon, Deputy Director-General of the National Economic and Development Authority, Philippines; Patricia Torsney, Permanent Observer of the Office of IPU to the United Nations; and Stephan Contius, Head of Division at the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Germany.

55. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Papua New Guinea, Sweden and Senegal; the representatives of the major groups for indigenous peoples, children and youth, and non-governmental organizations; and the representatives of the other stakeholders groups for ageing and persons with disabilities.

Challenges in mobilizing the means of implementation at the national level (financing, technology, capacity-building)

56. Also at the 6th meeting, on 13 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Challenges in mobilizing the means of implementation at the national level (financing, technology, capacity-building)", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Alejandro Palma Cerna (Honduras), who made an opening statement.

57. The discussion was moderated by Manuel Montes, Senior Advisor on Finance and Development at the South Centre in Geneva, who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Paulo Gadelha, President of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation and member of the 10-member group to support the Technology Facilitation Mechanism; and Felipe Castro, Technical Secretary for the Inter-Institutional Commission for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda, Colombia, and the following lead discussants: Mawussi Djossou Semondji, Expert Minister to the Presidency of Togo; Paul Gulleik Larsen, Project Manager, Section for United Nations Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway; Sun Chengyong, Counsellor at the Department of Science and Technology for Social Development, Ministry of Science and Technology of China; and David O'Connor, Representative of the International Union for Conservation of Nature to the United Nations.

58. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Estonia, South Africa, the Republic of Korea and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; the representatives of the major groups for workers and trade unions, women, children and youth, and non-governmental organizations; and the representative for the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

National mechanisms for monitoring progress and reporting on implementation for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

59. At the 7th meeting, on 14 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "National mechanisms for monitoring progress and reporting on implementation for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Jürg Lauber (Switzerland), who made an opening statement.

60. The discussion was moderated by Johannes Paul Jütting, Manager of the secretariat of Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century within the Development Cooperation Directorate of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Lisa Grace S. Bersales, National Statistician and Head of the Philippine Statistics Authority; Pali Lehohla, Statistician-General of South Africa; and Georges-Simon Ulrich, Director of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office, and by the following lead discussants: Milorad Šćepanović, Director-General for Multilateral Affairs and Regional Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro; and Peseta Noumea Simi, Chief Executive Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Samoa.

61. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Estonia, Malaysia, China, Cook Islands, Kenya, the European Union, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Chad and Viet Nam; the representative of FAO; the representatives of the major groups for children and youth, and non-governmental organizations; and the representatives of the other stakeholders groups for ageing and persons with disabilities.

Making the 2030 Agenda deliver for small island developing States, building on the SAMOA pathway

62. Also at the 7th meeting, on 14 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Making the 2030 Agenda deliver for small island developing States, building on the SAMOA pathway", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Sven Jürgenson (Estonia), who made an opening statement.

63. The discussion was moderated by Elizabeth Thompson, former Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Coordinator for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and former Minister for Energy and Environment of Barbados, who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Anote Tong, former President of Kiribati; and David Smith, Coordinator at the University Consortium of Small Island States, Institute for

Sustainable Development at the University of the West Indies, and by the following lead discussants: Justina Langidrik, Chief Secretary of the Marshall Islands; and Kate Brown, Executive Director of Global Island Partnership.

64. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists and the moderator responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Federated States of Micronesia (on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States), Jamaica (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Italy, Australia, Belize, Samoa, New Zealand and Kazakhstan; and the representative of FAO.

Countries in special situations

65. At the 8th meeting, on 14 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Countries in special situations", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Alejandro Palma Cerna (Honduras), who made an opening statement.

66. The discussion was moderated by David Steven, Senior Fellow and Associate Director at the Center on International Cooperation, New York University, who made a statement. Statements were also made by the following panellists: Youba Sokona, Special Advisor on Sustainable Development, South Centre, member of the Least Developed Countries Independent Expert Group of the International Institute for Environment and Development, and member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; Jean-Marc Châtaigner, Deputy Executive Director of the Research Institute for Development of France; Marina Djernaes, Director of the EcoPeace Center of Environmental Peacebuilding, EcoPeace Middle East; Claudio Huepe Minoletti, Professor and Coordinator of the Energy and Sustainable Development Centre, Diego Portales University, Chile; and Stephen Chacha Tumbo, Founder of the Africa Philanthropic Foundation and member of the African civil society organizations working group.

67. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists and the moderator responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Zimbabwe, Zambia, Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh, the Bahamas (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), the Islamic Republic of Iran, Chile, Chad, Belarus, Rwanda, Canada, the European Union, Sweden and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; as well as by the representatives of the major groups for women, children and youth, indigenous peoples, and non-governmental organizations, and the other stakeholder group for disabled persons.

From inspiration to action: multi-stakeholder engagement of implementation

68. At the 9th meeting, on 15 July, the high-level political forum held two panel discussions on the theme "From inspiration to action: multi-stakeholder engagement of implementation", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Jürg Lauber (Switzerland), who made an opening statement.

69. The discussions were moderated by Barbara Adams, Senior Policy Adviser at the Global Policy Forum, who also made a statement.

Ensuring that no one is left behind: the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by major groups and other stakeholders

70. The first panel discussion was on the topic "Ensuring that no one is left behind: the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by major groups and other stakeholders".

71. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations and chief negotiator on the outcome document of the second high-level meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation; Berry Vbranovic, Mayor of the city of Kitchener (Canada) and member of United Cities and Local Governments; Joan Carling, Secretary-General, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact; Yvonne Harz-Pitre, Director of Communications and Public Affairs, International Fertilizer Industry Association; Marco Marzano de Marinis, Secretary-General, World Farmers' Organization; Alok Rath, Country Director for Uganda and South Sudan, Voluntary Service Overseas International; and Frances Zainoeddin, Board Director, Gray Panthers, and by the following respondents: Norma Munguia Aldaraca, Assistant Director-General for Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico; Sarah Mendelson, Representative of the United States to the Economic and Social Council; and Peter Thomson, Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations.

72. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Benin, Sri Lanka and the Netherlands.

Multi-stakeholder approaches at the national level: the opportunity to enhance follow-up and review by engaging major groups and other stakeholders

73. The second panel discussion was on the topic "Multi-stakeholder approaches at the national level: the opportunity to enhance follow-up and review by engaging major groups and other stakeholders".

74. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Mabel Bianco, Fundación para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer; and Yetnebersh Nigussie, Senior Advocacy Officer, Light for the World, and by the following respondents: Harriet Ludwig, Deputy Head of Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany; Annisa Tryanti, focal point on disaster risk reduction, children and youth major group; Antonia Wulff, Coordinator, Education International; Guéladio Cissé, member of the Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in the Conduct of Science of the International Council for Science, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute; Carlos Sergio Sobral Duarte, Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations; and Inge Herman Rydland, Special Representative for the 2030 Agenda of Norway.

75. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway and Finland, and the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

Regional experiences

76. At the 10th meeting, on 15 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the topic "Regional experiences". The discussion was chaired and moderated by the President of the Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea).

77. Statements were made by the following speakers: Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister for Sustainable Development and Wildlife of Sri Lanka and Chair of the Asia-Pacific Regional Forum on Sustainable Development; Ghada Waly, Minister of Social Solidarity of Egypt, presenting the outcome of the 2016 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development; Jānis Kārkliņš, Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations in Geneva and Chair of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Regional Forum; Juan José Gómez Camacho, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations in New York and Chair of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development; Amjad Mohammad Saleh Al-Moumani, Deputy Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations in New York, presenting the outcome of the 2016 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development; Virachai Plasai, Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations in New York, on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations; Badre Eddine Allali, Head, Social Affairs Sector, League of Arab States; and A. Missouri Sherman-Peter, Permanent Observer of the Caribbean Community to the United Nations.

78. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the representatives of South Africa, Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States) and Ghana and the representative of the Committee on World Food Security, participated.

79. Statements were also made by the following representatives of the United Nations regional commissions: Christian Friis Bach, Executive Secretary of ECE and Coordinator of the Regional Commissions; Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); Rima Khalaf, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; and Giovanie Biha, Deputy Executive Secretary for Knowledge Delivery of the Economic Commission for Africa.

80. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the representatives of the regional commissions responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Benin, Belarus, the Islamic Republic of Iran, France, Finland, Cuba and Chad, the representatives of the major groups for non-governmental organizations, children and youth, and women, and the representatives of the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities, Together 2030 and the Asia Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

Ensuring that no one is left behind: reaching the most vulnerable

81. At the 11th meeting, on 18 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Ensuring that no one is left behind: reaching the most vulnerable", chaired by the President of the Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), who made an opening statement.

82. The discussion was moderated by Guy Ryder, Director-General of ILO. Statements were made by the following panellists: Hugo Roger Martínez Bonilla, Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador; Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh; and Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of Germany, and by the following lead discussants: Christian Friis Bach, Executive Secretary of ECE; and Kate Gilmore, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights.

83. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists and the moderator responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Netherlands, Kenya, Viet Nam, Panama, Thailand, the United Kingdom and Mauritius, and the representatives of the major groups for indigenous peoples, and business and industry.

Challenges of countries in special situations

84. Also at the 11th meeting, on 18 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Challenges of countries in special situations", chaired by the President of the Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), who made an opening statement.

85. The discussion was moderated by Gyan Chandra Acharya, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. Statements were made by the following panellists: Álvaro García, Member of the Presidential Cabinet and Director of the Office of Planning and Budget of the Presidency of Uruguay; Helen Clark, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and Chair of the United Nations Development Group; and Dame Meg Taylor, Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, and by the following lead discussants: Ricardo Cardona, Minister for Social Development of Honduras; Karina Gould, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development and La Francophonie of Canada; and Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary of ESCAP.

86. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists and the moderator responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Italy, Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Thailand (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Zambia and Panama; as well as the representative of the children and youth major group.

Unlocking means of implementation for the Sustainable Development Goals and creating an enabling environment

87. At the 12th meeting, on 18 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Unlocking means of implementation for the Sustainable Development Goals and creating an enabling environment", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Alejandro Palma Cerna (Honduras), who made an opening statement.

88. The discussion was moderated by Ardalan Shekarabi, Minister for Public Administration of Sweden, who made an opening statement. Statements were also

made by the following panellists: Neven Mimica, European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development; Michelle Muschett, Vice-Minister of Social Development and Technical Coordinator of the Social Cabinet of Panama; Mahmoud Mohieldin, Senior Vice-President for the 2030 Development Agenda, World Bank Group; Axel Bertuch-Samuels, Senior Advisor on Financing for Development and United Nations Relations, International Monetary Fund; Douglas Frantz, Deputy Secretary-General of OECD; and Vaughan Turekian, Science and Technology Adviser to the United States Secretary of State.

89. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Thailand (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Viet Nam, Mauritius, Nigeria and Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), and the representatives of the major groups for workers and trade unions, children and youth, and non-governmental organizations.

Prospects for the future (projections, scenarios and new and emerging issues)

90. At the 16th meeting, on 20 July, the high-level political forum held a panel discussion on the theme "Prospects for the future (projections, scenarios and new and emerging issues)", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Jürg Lauber (Switzerland).

91. The discussion was moderated by Irina Bokova, Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Statements were made by the following panellists: Simón Gaviria Muñoz, Minister for National Planning of Colombia; Edgar Gutiérrez Espeleta, Minister for the Environment and Energy of Costa Rica and President of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly; Fumiko Kasuga, Director of the Future Earth Global Hub, Japan, Senior Fellow at the National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan, and Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo; Stewart Lockie, Director of the Cairns Institute at James Cook University, Australia; and Nebojsa Nakicenovic, Deputy Director of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria.

92. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Sri Lanka and El Salvador; the representative of the International Telecommunication Union; the representatives of the major groups for children and youth, business and industry, indigenous issues, and non-governmental organizations; and the representatives of the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities and Together 2030.

IV. Voluntary national reviews

93. At its 13th to 15th meetings, on 19 and 20 July, the high-level political forum held 22 voluntary national reviews.

Voluntary national reviews (first group): Mexico, Morocco, Switzerland, Montenegro and Sierra Leone

94. At the 13th meeting, on 19 July, the voluntary national reviews were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Sven Jürgenson (Estonia), who made a statement.

95. Presentations were made by Francisco Guzmán Ortiz, Chief of Staff of the Office of the President of Mexico; Mohamed El Ouafa, Minister Delegate to the Head of Government in charge of General Affairs and Governance of Morocco; Manuel Sager, State Secretary and Head of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, and Sabine Döbeli, Chief Executive Officer of Swiss Sustainable Finance; Milorad Šćepanović, Director-General for Multilateral Affairs and Regional Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro, and Jelena Kneževič, Head of the Department for Sustainable Development and Integrated Coastal Zone Management at the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro; and Vandi Chidi Minah, Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations in New York.

96. The discussion was moderated by Robert Glasser, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, and statements were made by the expert discussant, Rachel Kyte, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All, and the lead discussant, Sandra Andovska, Adviser for Sustainable Development and national focal point for sustainable development of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

97. The representative of Austria and the representative of the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities made comments and posed questions.

Voluntary national reviews (second group): Norway, Madagascar, Georgia and Turkey

98. Also at the 13th meeting, on 19 July, the voluntary national reviews were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava (Zimbabwe).

99. Presentations were made by Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway, and Martin Ulvestad Østerdal, Secretary-General of the Norwegian Children and Youth Council; Herilanto Raveloharison, Minister of Economy and Strategic Planning of Madagascar; David Zalkaliani, First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia; and Halit Çevik, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations in New York.

100. The discussion was moderated by Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, Special Envoy on Gender of the African Development Bank, and a statement was made by the lead discussant, Thoriq Ibrahim, Minister of the Environment and Energy of Maldives.

101. The representative of Argentina, the representative of IPU to the United Nations and the representative of the major group for children and youth made comments and posed questions.

Voluntary national reviews (third group): Finland; Samoa, Uganda and Germany

102. At the 14th meeting, on 19 July, the voluntary national reviews were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Alejandro Palma Cerna (Honduras).

103. Presentations were made by Kimmo Tiilikainen, Minister of Agriculture and the Environment of Finland, and Rilli Lappalainen, Secretary-General of the Finnish non-governmental development organizations platform to the European Union, Kehys; Sili Epa Tuioti, Minister of Finance of Samoa; Matia Kasaija, Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development of Uganda; Thomas Silberhorn, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany, Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of Germany, and Ansgar Klinger, Member of the Board of the German Education Union.

104. The discussion was moderated by Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, and statements were made by the expert discussant, Marianne Beisheim, Senior Associate for Global Issues at the Institute for International and Security Affairs of Germany, and by the following lead discussants: Ana María Baiardi, Minister for Women of Paraguay; and Morten Jespersen, Under-Secretary of State for Global Development and Cooperation of Denmark.

105. The representatives of Qatar and Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States) and the representative of the major group for children and youth, made comments and posed questions.

Voluntary national reviews (fourth group): Togo, Estonia and the Philippines

106. At the 15th meeting, on 20 July, the voluntary national reviews was chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava (Zimbabwe).

107. Presentations were made by Komi Sélom Klassou, Prime Minister of Togo; Hanno Pevkur, Minister of the Interior of Estonia; and Rosemarie G. Edillon, Deputy Director-General of the National Economic and Development Authority of the Philippines.

108. The discussion was moderated by Kathy Calvin, President and Chief Executive Officer of the United Nations Foundation, and statements were made by the expert discussant, Adil Najam, Dean of the Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University, and the lead discussant, Arvind Panagariya, Vice-Chairperson of NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) of India.

109. The representatives of Belgium and Luxembourg made comments and posed questions.

Voluntary national reviews (fifth group): Colombia, Egypt, France, China, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Republic of Korea

110. Also at the 15th meeting, on 20 July, the voluntary national reviews were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Jürg Lauber (Switzerland).

111. The voluntary national review for Colombia was presented by Simón Gaviria Muñoz, Minister for National Planning of Colombia, who subsequently responded to the comments made and questions raised by the representatives of Norway and Spain and the representative of Together 2030.

112. The voluntary national review for Egypt was presented by Sahar Nasr, Minister for International Cooperation of Egypt, who subsequently responded to the comments made and questions raised by the representative of Lebanon, the representative of the World Bank Group and the representative of the children and youth major group.

113. The voluntary national review for France was presented by Ségolène Royal, Minister of the Environment, Energy and Marine Affairs of France, who subsequently responded to the comments made and questions raised by the representative of China and the representative of the major group for women.

114. The voluntary national review for China was presented by Li Baodong, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of China, who subsequently responded to the comments made and questions raised by the representatives of France and Pakistan and the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

115. The voluntary national review for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was presented by Ricardo José Menéndez, Vice-President for Planning and Knowledge and Minister of People's Power for Planning of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, who subsequently responded to the comments made and questions raised by the representatives of China and Serbia, and the representative of the children and youth major group.

116. The voluntary national review for the Republic of Korea was presented by Jongmoon Choi, Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, who subsequently responded to the comments made and questions raised by the representative of Mexico, the representative of the World Bank Group and the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

V. Organizational and other matters

Opening and duration of the meeting

117. The high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2016 session was held from 11 to 20 July 2016. A number of formal meetings were held.

118. At the 1st meeting, on 11 July, the President of the Council declared open the meeting of the forum and made a statement.

119. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

Agenda

120. At the 1st meeting, on 11 July, the high-level political forum adopted its provisional agenda, as contained in document E/HLPF/2016/1:

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Ensuring that no one is left behind.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system (A/71/76-E/2016/55).

   Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns (E/2016/62).

   Report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (E/2016/75).

   Relevant sections of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its nineteenth session (E/2016/31).

   Report of the inaugural session of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up (E/FFDF/2016/3).

   Note by the Secretariat on the discussion papers on the theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, submitted by major groups and other stakeholders (E/HLPF/2016/2).

   Note by the Secretariat on the reports of the regional forums on sustainable development (E/HLPF/2016/3 and Add.1-5).

   Note by the Secretariat transmitting the summary, prepared for policymakers, of the *Global Sustainable Development Report 2016* (E/HLPF/2016/4).

   Note by the Secretariat on the synthesis of voluntary submissions by functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums (E/HLPF/2016/5).

   Note by the Secretariat transmitting the Co-Chairs' summary of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (E/HLPF/2016/6).

3. Adoption of the ministerial declaration.

4. Adoption of the report.

Conclusion of the meeting

121. At the 16th meeting, on 20 July, following the closing remarks by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, the President of the Council, Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), made a closing statement and declared closed the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.

Attendance

122. The 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council was open to all States Members of the United Nations and States members of specialized agencies. The meeting was attended by representatives of 119 States Members of the United Nations and States members of specialized agencies. Observers for the European Union, accredited observers for intergovernmental organizations, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and accredited observers for non-governmental and other organizations also attended. The list of participants will be issued in document E/HLPF/2016/INF/1.

Documentation

123. The documents before the forum are listed in the annex to the present report. The informal papers considered by the forum are available from the website of the forum (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2016).

Annex

Documentation

Symbol	*Title or description*
E/2016/62	Progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns
E/2016/75	Report of the Secretary-General on the progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals
E/HLPF/2016/1	Provisional agenda
E/HLPF/2016/2	Discussion papers on the theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, submitted by major groups and other stakeholders
E/HLPF/2016/3 and Add.1-5	Reports of the regional forums on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2016/4	Note by the Secretariat on the *Global Sustainable Development Report 2016*: summary for policymakers
E/HLPF/2016/5	Note by the Secretariat on the synthesis of voluntary submissions by functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums
E/HLPF/2016/6	Note by the President of the Economic and Social Council transmitting the Co-Chairs' summary of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals
E/HLPF/2016/7	Note by the Secretariat transmitting executive summaries of voluntary national reviews
E/FFDF/2016/3	Report of the inaugural session of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up
E/HLPF/2016/L.1	Draft report
E/2016/L.24-E/HLPF/2016/L.2	Draft ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2016 session of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council
E/HLPF/2016/INF/1	List of participants